

REMARKS

Claims 1-78 are pending in this application and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,668,322 B1 (Wood) in combination with a number of other references cited by the Office Action. Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claim 1

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Wood in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,035,404 (Zhao).

Claim 1 states in part, “receiving a first request from a user for an application instance, the request including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests without further user and session application variables...” The Office Action states that Wood is “silent on a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user,” and contends that Zhao cures this deficiency of Wood. However, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Zhao and Wood is improper because Wood teaches away from Zhao in this respect. The final Office Action correlates the “session cookie” of Wood to the “single identifier” of claim 1. However, in col. 8, lines 9-25, Wood describes using two separate identifiers within a session credentials structure to identify the session and the user, namely the “session id” and “principal id” of Wood. Also, Wood describes that there are additional user session and application variables, namely, “a trust level, group ids, a creation time, and expiration time.” In Wood, the trust level is associated with the unique principal id and “serves as a basis for evaluating whether a *principal* associated with the session credentials has been authenticated to a sufficient level...” (emphasis added) Col. 8, lines 26-30. If the same id were used for the session and user, then this evaluation of user authentication using the trust level would not be possible because the user would not be able to be differentiated from the session. This is contrary to and teaches away from what the Office Action contends Zhao discloses. According to the Office Action, “Zhao teaches a user access system including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests.” Thus, the combination of Zhao and Wood is improper under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) because Wood teaches away from Zhao with respect to “the request including a single

identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests without further user and session application variables...”

Also, modifying Wood as disclosed in Zhao would render the primary reference Wood unsatisfactory for its intended purpose (which is to identify session/user and authenticate trust level). This shows there is no suggestion to combine Wood and Zhao (see MPEP 2143.01 V).

Since the combination of Zhao and Wood is improper under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) withdrawal of the rejection is earnestly solicited.

Claims 2-78

Claims 2-78 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Wood in view of Zhao, and for some claims, additionally in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,226,752 (Gupta).

Claims 2-78 either depend from claim 1 or were rejected for the same reasons as claim 1 with respect to the claim 1 elements discussed above. Thus, the combination of Zhao and Wood is improper under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) with respect to claims 2-78 as well.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections for claims 2-78 is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION


Applicants believe that the present reply is responsive to each point raised by the Examiner in the Office Action and Applicant submits that claims 1-78 of the application are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and passage to issue of the application at the Examiner's earliest convenience is earnestly solicited. However, should the Examiner find the claims as presented herein to not be allowable for any reason, Applicant's undersigned representative earnestly requests a telephone conference at (206) 332-1392 with both the Examiner and the Examiner's Supervisor to discuss the basis for the Examiner's continued rejection in light of the Applicant's arguments presented herein. Likewise, should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or suggestions that would expedite the

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prosecution of the present case to allowance, Applicant's undersigned representative would very much appreciate a telephone conference to discuss these issues.

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